

# RIC 2006

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## Session W3BRK

## Yucca Mountain

Status of NRC's Regulatory Program  
for a Potential Geologic Repository

C. William Reamer, Director  
Division of High-Level Waste Repository Safety  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
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# NRC Responsibilities

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- **Serve as Independent Regulator with Oversight Responsibilities for Yucca Mountain**
- **Set Licensing Criteria Consistent with EPA Standards for Yucca Mountain through Rulemaking**
- **Complete Safety Review of DOE License Application**
- **Conduct public pre-licensing interactions**
- **Make a Construction Authorization Decision on DOE License Application in 3-4 Years**

# **NRC Responsibilities (Continued)**

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- **Adopt Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)  
Prepared by DOE for Yucca Mountain to Extent  
Practicable**
- **Develop and Maintain Licensing Support Network  
(LSN)**
- **Conduct Formal Adjudicatory Hearing in Regard to  
DOE License Application**

# Current NRC Activities

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- **Finalize Part 63 Based on Public Comments and Final Revisions to EPA Yucca Mountain Standard**
- **Continue Pre-License Application Interactions with DOE**
- **Maintain Staff Readiness to Review DOE License Application**
- **Maintain Las Vegas Hearing Facility**

# Current NRC Activities (Continued)

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- **Continue to Supplement NRC Document Collection on the LSN**
- **Interact with Interested Stakeholders through Public Outreach to Maintain Openness**
- **Participate in Pre-License Application Adjudicatory Activities (PAPO) on LSN and Discovery Process**

# Revising NRC Licensing Criteria

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- **The Public Comment Periods on Both the EPA Standard and NRC Regulation (Part 63) Have Ended**
- **NRC Staff's Goal Is to Have Draft Final Regulations Ready for Commission Approval Shortly After EPA Issues its Final Standard**
- **NRC Would Update its Regulatory Guidance as Necessary to be Consistent with the Revised Part 63**
- **NRC is Evaluating its Analytical Tools to be Prepared to Conduct a Review Using the Revised Regulations**

# Pre-License Application Interactions

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- **Monitor the Changes to DOE's Repository Program and Continue to Identify Regulatory Issues**
- **Monitor the Quality Assurance and Technical Issues Associated with the U.S Geological Survey (USGS) Employee e-mails**
- **Identify Important Technical and Regulatory Issues and Pursue Public Interactions with DOE**

# SUMMARY

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- **NRC Has a Program in Place to Conduct a Fair and Independent Review of a DOE License Application for Yucca Mountain**
- **NRC Is Actively Engaging the DOE to Address Technical and Regulatory Issues Relevant to DOE Developing a High-Quality License Application**